



Village of Grand Beach

48200 PERKINS BLVD.

GRAND BEACH, MI 49117

February 21, 2012

The Honorable Sharon Tyler
N-1097 House Office Building
P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909

Re: House Bill 5304

Sent Via Email - SharonTyler@house.mi.gov

Dear Representative Tyler,

We are writing to you regarding HB 5304 that will direct the Act 51 funds to the County for those Villages that receive less than \$50,000 annually in Act 51 funds.

The Village of Grand Beach is a residential community with no commercial or retail business activity that can help support the infrastructure of the Village.

The Act 51 funding is critical to the maintenance of the approximately 12 miles of roads located in the Village. We depend on this funding to patch, repair, salt, sand and plow the roads of the Village.

The Village maintains its own equipment and employees for routine road maintenance without burdening Berrien County. We do not want to be put in the position where we will be forced to wait for the county to decide when they are ready to patch or repave our roads in Grand Beach.

The roads in Grand Beach are very hilly and curvy and very difficult and dangerous to maneuver when the roads have not been plowed and sanded. The roads must be plowed early each morning after a snowfall in order to accommodate the resident's needs and to allow emergency vehicles quick and easy access in and out of the Village. The county is already responsible for plowing many, many miles of roads and waiting for them to plow our roads could cause major problems for emergency vehicles entering the Village.

The Village is an affluent area with a high tax base. Maintenance of, and improvements to its infrastructure is critical to maintaining its relatively high tax base, and its ability to attract high income homeowners.

Loss of Act 51 money to the county will negatively impact employment by the Village; will discourage investment in the Village and will tend to erode the tax base of the Village.